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Washington, D.C. 20520

August 9, 1972

Honorable Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. McCloskey:

Secretary Rogers has asked me to reply to your letter of August 2 in which you requested a full classified briefing concerning the current bombing in North Viet-Nam. I note that you have sent a similar letter to the Secretary of Defense and the Director of CIA.

In examining your request it is clear that the information you and your group seek, as described in the second and third paragraphs, is available only in the Department of Defense. It is understood that representatives of that Department will be directly in touch with you concerning the feasibility of the briefing which you have requested.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Abshire

David M. Abshire
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

ccs: Secretary of Defense
Director of CIA

DOS review(s) completed.

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August 2, 1972

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Honorable William P. Rogers
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Bill:

On behalf of the 32 Senators and 101 Congressmen of the Members of Congress for Peace through Law, it is requested that the Department of State provide us with a full classified briefing on the nature, extent and results of the current bombing of North Vietnam. We are desirous that the briefing be given during the week of August 7-11.

We are particularly interested in ascertaining the policies and rules of engagement where dikes and civilian areas are concerned, targeting priorities and goals, the types and mix of ordnance, and number of sorties flown.

We would likewise appreciate the briefing officers being prepared to provide full photographic evidence and bomb damage assessment information with respect to both dikes and civilian areas located adjacent to the various military and non-military targets which have been hit since the bombing was resumed.

Finally, we would like to be advised on such present information as you may have on the location of prisoner of war camps and the procedures which are being followed to avoid injury to the POW's and such personnel as may be shot down during the current campaign.

We would appreciate an early response so that our full membership can be advised of the time and place of the briefing. We have submitted a similar request to the Secretary of Defense, Melvin Laird, and to the Director of the CIA, Richard Helms, this date, and would be happy to have a single coordinated briefing or separate briefing at your discretion.

Sincerely,



Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.
Chairman, Southeast Asian Committee

PNMC:oo

cc: Steering Committee Members, MCPL